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VIDELA EXPLAINS NEW LABOR UNION ASSOCIATIONS LAW

PY160051 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Nov 79 PY

[Speech by President Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla (ret) on 15 November in Buenos Aires--recorded]

[Text] People of the Argentine nation: In the complex and diversified framework of modern life, unionism carries out a fundamental mission when it expresses, with calmness and balance, the interests of an important social sector, adjusting its assignment to the legal norms that are in force and to the higher objectives of the community.

In this sense it is a question of an effective and plausible reality of our times. The existence of a developed society would be inconceivable without the presence of a stable and organized labor movement capable of carrying out its mission without any type of demagogy and without overflowing its specific activities. This is how the national government fully understands it, in its full doctrinary and instrumental scope.

This is why when the armed forces assumed the political power of the nation on 24 March 1976 they set as one of their principal objectives the establishment of a harmonious relationship between the state, capital and labor with the strengthening of the development of business and labor structures in order to adapt them to their specific activities.

Today, after having adopted decisive resolutions of improvement in all sectors of national activity, on approving the labor union associations law, one of the goals of the process has been achieved, one which is designed to shape a fluid system of labor relations within a sphere of rights and duties underlined by social equity and solidarity.

Within this field, as within all others within the scope of leading the nation, we have been soberly, but without hesitation, implementing the successive stages that will inexorably lead us toward the forecasted goals.

It should be recalled that we started at an unprecedented state of national need, so our efforts have been and will be arduous. But to surmount difficulties we count on the firm determination of all Argentines who are willing to start a new historic cycle in our country by making the changes necessary for the nation's progress.

In these efforts, the intermediary organizations have a role which have been precisely defined. As I have repeatedly said, it is up to these intermediary organizations to channel sectorial interests through an ever stronger social solidarity capable of surmounting differences and conflicts in a harmonious manner and with an appropriate sense of responsibility. Therefore, the men who are involved in union activities in Argentina should become conscious of the fact that the functioning of true democracy imposes limitations on the activities and spheres of competence of the various sectors. The violations of those limits in the various areas of national affairs was in fact a cause of the serious crisis which the country experienced; a crisis which, as is known, called for the adoption of exceptional measures, including those in the labor sector.

In that regard and to safeguard the real rights and interests of the workers, it became necessary to implement substantial reorganization.

We could not resort to improvisations in such delicate matters. Long years of errors and unsuccessful experiences called for a well-balanced solution. The true interests of the Argentine workers, their future, security and undeniable rights were at stake. But our concern was also focused on the lofty values of the common good, the preservation of freedom and the need for harmonious coexistence--elements which were disregarded in the past for the sake of misleading claims whose real objectives were not in line with the true interests of the working class.

In view of all this and after thorough studies and consultation, we wanted to offer a realistic, stable and just channel for the legitimate exercise of labor activities. But I also wish to make emphatically clear that the approval of this new law is very far from being an opportunist concession or retrograde vengefulness. On the contrary, it is a question of regulating the exercise of a right that, as with all rights, is carried out in a social sphere and it therefore demands precise norms of understanding, both within the sector and in relation with the overall scope.

As is obvious, this implies responsibilities for the workers, their leaders, businessmen and the state. The workers' responsibility: To exercise fully, and with justice, the powers which fall within their sphere of competence. They are the principal depositories of this new law. It is they who must oversee the faithful defense of their authentic interests and it must be through the strict observance of the specific ends of the unions. They, as all the population, cannot forget that the greatness of the fatherland can only be made possible through the coordinated and continued effort of everyone and that, therefore, they must not be led toward sterile confrontations or conflicts that only lead to frustration and the lack of security, thus making easy the actions of demagogy or terrorism.

The responsibility of the labor leaders: To act within the framework of their task. They must be the example for those whom they represent by permanently preaching patriotism, public and private morality, a vocation for service and by banning forever the easy flattery or corruptive complacency. It is also within their sphere of competence, in all circumstances, to eradicate politics from labor activities and to prevent sectorial interests from prevailing over the general welfare.

The responsibility of businessmen: To exercise together with their specific activities, a frank social sensitivity in accordance with the demands of the times and in accordance with the lessons of solidarity of the papal encyclicals and the renovating ideas of the current historical circumstances; a social sensitivity which will turn into concrete events and positive attitudes in the face of the development of a process that had to put in to gear a productive apparatus that was coming apart; and above all a mature attitude in the face of events in order to avoid unnecessary tensions which, in the final analysis, only serve to help the promoters of subversive violence.

The responsibility on the part of the state: To effectively serve the common good and to play its role as a regulatory agency among the various sectors, insuring freedom within the legal boundaries and determinedly demanding compliance with the duties of each sector.

The law which goes into effect today is considered to be a system capable of insuring the rights of the workers, the representative quality of their leaders, the harmonious, dynamic and just coexistence. The law sets down mechanisms to preserve labor organization, to facilitate their effective development, to avoid their splintering, to prevent their excessive growth which can hamper their function and social balance.

But beyond the particular aspects contemplated in the articles of this new legal instrument, I want to refer to more profound questions implied in it.

Everyone knows the extremes which have been reached in some instances, the overgrowth of the so-called labor power at the service of crudely partisan objectives. Everyone also knows--and this is important--the damage which has thus been inflicted on the true interests of the labor class, on the society as a whole, and on the economy of the whole country.

Today we have instituted a new system in this field, a system based on the freedom of association, the elimination of politics from labor organizations, the representative quality of the labor leaders and the strict control of union funds--a system of real benefit for all the Argentine workers. This is a system which fits quite appropriately the institutional context and raises the labor organizations above opportunities or underhanded manipulations. This is to say that this law is meant to directly and truly serve the Argentine workers, their legitimate and just aspirations, free of any kind of interference or pressure from outside the workers' natural and legal environment.

There is one question which is indeed related to the professional associations law but must nevertheless be dealt with separately in all cases. This question refers to the social works which will be regulated by a different law. This question has generated heated debates and long discussions and its solution will be given by strictly separating the areas of responsibility regarding the unions and the social works, insuring the greatest degree of effectiveness for the system of benefits without reducing the social significance which must be characteristic of union activities.

After having defined in broad terms the spirit and the scope of the new labor law, we must make a clarification: Just as we are giving concrete shape to some fundamental aspects related to union activities, we will be laying down concrete rules related to all intermediary organizations and to the workings of representative organizations of citizens.

We know that some sectors are concerned about the possibility that such laws might grant circumstantial advantages to some groups. There is no reason for such a concern. In the first place, these laws are strict in eliminating politics from labor affairs. Secondly, the clear democratic sentiments of the government and its conviction that dynamic equilibrium must be maintained among the sectors rule out any suspicion that privileges or favoritism will be granted to any particular sector.

Moreover, as has been said recently, "The solution for the excessive political and economic power wielded by the unions at a given time, does not mean that this power should be denied or ignored but that it should be harmonized and integrated to serve the common good just as in other sectors of society."

Gentlemen: The approval of this legal instrument is a challenge for Argentines. Neither the government, businessmen, leaders nor workers will be able to exclude themselves. Its implementation, with a spirit of greatness and of ample scope, will in good measure provide for the success or failure of a decisive stage for national activities.

We have assumed our responsibility on approving it. It would have been easier for us to maintain a status quo, easily exploitable through the use of demagogy, seeking subordinate political interests. But, as it could not be any other way, we have rejected that alternative because we desire a strong and free unionism which is in keeping with the times and in accordance with the civic maturity of the Argentine people.

The approval of this law is the calm and thoughtful answer that the armed forces have given to a very old problem that had important implications for the country.

As I do not wish for there to be any doubts about our intentions or any shadow regarding the frankness with which we undertake all the questions that pertain to the national interest, I wish to emphasize that:

We do not seek the atomization or the weakening of the Argentine labor movement. We want its democratic organization and the strengthening of the values of unionism.

We do not intend to restrict rights or the defense of legitimate labor interests. We seek to effectively guarantee them within the framework of harmonious coexistence.

We are not expecting easy solutions. We want lasting and rational answers for the problems involved in the relationship among labor, capital and government.

We are not seeking a superficial consensus or indiscriminate support. We ask for constructive criticism and dissent expressed through the natural channels, and we ask this as a sincere expression of our desire for dialog.

We will reject and steer away from any attempt to deviate us from our fundamental objective which is to institute an authentically pluralist democracy. This means that we are determined to prevent any attempt to use labor structures as an instrument to serve partisan politics or ideologies.

Through their daily effort and supported by the dreams and hopes of the past generations which built the nation, the Argentines have sufficiently proved their capacity to work, their spirit of sacrifice and his loyalty to the lofty ideals of Argentine heritage. At this time of transformations, we call upon the proud and dedicated Argentine workers to participate in this common task demanded for the greatness of our fatherland and the well-being of our nation. Thank you.

BRIEFS

ELECTION TO INMARSAT--Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (NA)--The National Telecommunciations Company (ENTEL) reported today that Argentina was elected as the American regional representative to the International Satellite Telecommunications Organization (INMARSAT). As a result, Argentina will be a member of the organization's council. [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Oct 79 PY]

$100 MILLION LOAN--London, 30 Oct (AFP)--The Argentine province of Buenos Aires has obtained a $100-million line of credit from the international capital market. This loan will be used for financing the construction of highways between this capital and Mar del Plata, 400 km south of Buenos Aires, it was reported here today. The 10 year loan was granted by an interrational consortium with the participation of 10 banks. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1230 GMT 30 Oct 79 PY]

ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH URUGUAY--Buenos Aires, 31 Oct (AFP)--The economic cooperation agreement signed between Uruguay and Argentina in 1971 was modified by notes signed today by Argentine Foreign Minister Carlos Pastor and the Uruguayan Ambassador Luis de Posadas Montero. This new agreement has extended for 1 year the duty-free status of articles imported from Uruguay. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1752 GMT 31 Oct 79 PY]

NATUSCH, GUEVARA RESIGN PRESIDENCY

PY161042 Paris AFP in Spanish 0415 GMT 16 Nov 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 16 Nov (AFP)--De facto Bolivian President Alberto Natusch Busch and constitutional President Walter Guevara Arze both resigned their posts in order to allow the Congress to elect a "third man" to rule the country, according to an official report.

TRIUMVIRATE FAILS, TALKS CONTINUE

Guevara Rejects Triumvirate

PY151441 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Nov 79 PY

[Text] Constitutional interim President Walter Guevara Arze maintained yesterday in a communique he sent to the Congress that the solution being suggested in the tripartite negotiations might lead to the nonrecognition of the raison d'etre of the representative democratic system. He says that what is sought is to give a disguise of legitimacy and a political appearance to an event having an exclusively military origin and projection.

He adds that the legislative branch and the workers seem to be compelled to recognize the de facto government and that if they participate in the proposed fiction the Congress will probably be closed again. Guevara tells the congressmen that the search for peace, coexistence and democracy in which you seem to be diligently engaged in meetings held according to parliamentary practice with the armed forces and the Bolivian Labor Central [COB] can only lead to the fabrication of a lie to deceive the country and foreign opinion, or to the most resounding failure.

He warns that no fictitious solution will last. The people will again and again take to the streets in demand of their freedom and the continuation of the democratic process, and they will ignore congressional decisions which do not reflect the real aspirations of the citizens.

In his message to the Congress, Guevara concludes by reminding it that the obligation of senators and deputies is to protect and develop the dawning democratic process. The decision you make may bring peace and tranquillity or misfortune and suffering to the Bolivians.

COB Not To Join Triumvirate

PY160002 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 2325 GMT 15 Nov 79 PY

[Communique issued by the Bolivian Labor Central, COB, in La Paz on 15 November--read by COB Press Secretary (Andres Solis); enumeration of points as heard]

[Text] In keeping with its principles the COB hereby reiterates once again its decision not to participate, either directly or indirectly, in any cogovernment or triumvirate.

2. The COB is interested as much as the people in finding a prompt solution to the political crisis, a solution which would permit us to solve the serious crisis the country is going through and thus avoid a worsening of the workers' economic situation.

3. In keeping with its declaration calling for a general strike to defend the democratic process and with the declaration suspending the strike, the COB stresses the following:

A. The COB rejects and repudiates coupist actions, regardless of their source. The COB recognizes the sovereign prerogative powers bestowed upon the National Congress to formulate and to find, by exercising its constitutional powers, a solution which will be instrumental in overcoming the present crisis, taking into account the country's interests, the defense of the democratic process and the popular consensus.

C. The COB announces that it will demand the new government elected by the National Congress and the Congress itself to take the following measures:

1. The convocation of an election for president and vice president of the republic, senators and deputies of 4 May 1980.

2. The consideration of the COB economic study in solving the country's economic crisis, to prevent the crisis from having an impact at the expense of the workers.

3. The firm defense of our natural resources by seeking to strengthen state enterprises.

4. Full enforcement of political and union freedom.

COB Walks Out on Talks

PY160239 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0211 GMT 16 Nov 79 PY

[By Rene Villegas]

[Text] La Paz, 15 Nov (LATIN)--The Bolivian Labor Central [COB] representatives tonight walked out of the tripartite talks and left legislators and military representatives discussing a solution to the country's institutional crisis. The top labor organization withdrew its representatives from the legislative palace after announcing its refusal to participate in a triumvirate proposed by the Congress and the armed forces.

Now that the negotiations involve only two parties, congressional boards and bloc leaders stressed to the military command the need to eliminate disruptive factors from any agreement which may serve as the basis for the new government. The legislative branch believes it essential to definitely exclude Col Alberto Natusch--the leader of the 1 November coup--in the search for a new executive government.

Meanwhile, the military sector demands that Congress exclude the deposed interim President Walter Guevara Arze as a prior condition to any agreement. The generals announced this condition to continue consultations with military units throughout the nation.

The crucial meeting--now bipartite--recessed for 45 minutes at 2130 local time (0131 GMT Friday).

Natusch Council in Session

PA160217 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0132 GMT 16 Nov 79 PA

[Excerpt] La Paz, 15 Nov (EFE)--The Council of Ministers of Col Alberto Natusch Busch's regime went into permanent session today to analyze the delicate situation in Bolivia.

The announcement was made by Finance Minister Agapito Monzon, who denied rumors of a possible devaluation of the Bolivian peso and other drastic economic measures.

Fifteen days after the coup d'etat which interrupted the democratization process, Natusch's regime continues to face the most obstinate opposition ever expressed against a de facto government in this country's modern history.

A few hours after the temporary closure of exchange houses and banks, the public began a mad scramble to buy U.S. dollars at any price. The dollar, which usually sells for 20 Bolivian pesos, today sold for 30.

While the critical situation is being analyzed at the government palace, the navy ordered the arrest of Rear Adm Rene Torres, former navy commander, for his opposition to Natusch's regime.

AFP: Resignation 'Solves' Crisis

FY161049 Paris AFP in Spanish 0441 GMT 16 Nov 79 FY

[Text] La Paz, 16 Nov (AFP)--Gen Oscar Larrain, the military delegate in the dialog between the armed forces and the Congress, has confirmed that the political crisis was solved this morning through Col Alberto Natusch Busch's resignation from the presidency.

General Larrain stressed that the armed forces have confirmed their will that "the National Congress as the constitutional power of the republic should choose between the two roads that can be followed: A civilian government originating from the Congress or a joint government by the Congress and the armed forces, guided by the legislative branch."

The solution will be confirmed when the Congress gathers in the next few hours to officially explain the solution of the serious crisis experienced by the country since Colonel Natusch overthrew President Guevara Arze on 1 November.

Most congressmen agree that the present Congress president, Lidia Gueiler, should be appointed interim president until elections are held.

Agreement on New Government

WA160555 London REUTER in English 0554 GMT 16 Nov 79 WA

[Text] La Paz, Nov 16, REUTER--Bolivia's politicians and generals today announced agreement on a new government to take over from that of Col Alberto Natusch who took power in a military coup two weeks ago. No mention was made of a possible role for Colonel Natusch in the new government, which Congress President Lidia Gueiler said would be named later today.

SOLIDARITY OF ARMED FORCES IN DOUBT

Anti-Natusch Movement Reported

FY152233 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2217 GMT 15 Nov 79 FY

[Text] La Paz, 15 Nov (LATIN)--A military movement which claimed to have the support of 250 officers and noncommissioned officers of the La Paz Garrison today declared itself to be against the government of Col Alberto Natusch and in favor of defending the people's rights.

The pronouncement, the first of its kind since the 1 November coup, was released by high-ranking army officers who went underground following a clandestine meeting with the press.

Lt Col Rolando Saravia Ortuno and Jorge Escobar Sanchez--both members of the military government which turned power over to civilians in August--met with local newsmen and foreign correspondents in the outskirts of the city and stated that they will no longer continue passively observing the drama of mourning and grief endured by our people.

Dressed in informal military uniform, the two officers stated that they were overcoming the indifference stemming from the rule that a military officer must take orders without asking questions, but made it clear that their attitude was not motivated by any interest or political sector.

Saravia, a former education minister, and Escobar, former manager of the Bolivian Development Corporation, read a document in which they reject Natusch's coup and charged him with having acted with the sole purpose of putting the military on a path of self destruction by creating this confrontation against the people.

They added that the weapons which were entrusted to us by the fatherland were used against defenseless people, and they condemned the attitude which has forced the country to the brink of civil war because of the blindness of a few. We hereby demand that they change their attitude in order to enable the people to again have confidence in democracy and freedom, they added.

The two officers, who are members of the armed forces generational movement which overthrew then-President Juan Pereda Asbun in November 1978, said that 250 officers, noncommissioned officers and soldiers of the La Paz Military Garrison--the most important of the country--reject the present regime.

They noted that the movement's supporters--whose signatures are on a military document--will not be disclosed for obvious reasons, but Saravia and Escobar have both assumed full responsibility for the veracity of this pronouncement. We are not alone...because 90 percent of our comrades in the armed forces will follow our steps until returning to the people what is legally theirs, they concluded.

The two colonels left the suburban residence in which they held the press conference after asking the journalists to give them sufficient leadtime to leave the house.

Anti-Natusch Officers' Communique

PY160129 La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 15 Nov 79 PY

[Statement issued by Lt Col Rolando Saravia Ortuna and Jorge Escobar Sanchez in La Paz on 15 November, read by Lt Col Jorge Escobar Sanchez--recorded]

[Text] To our comrades in the armed forces: We cannot go on passively observing, indifferently, the drama of mourning and grief endured by our people, under the mere pretext that we military should obey orders without questioning them.

Both the international and national public are convinced that the bloody 1 November coup organized by a small group of officers is nothing but an attempt to force the military institution towards its own self destruction by this confrontation against its people, as we experienced in recent days when the weapons entrusted to us by the fatherland were used against defenseless people.

It is not possible to persist in an attitude which is leading the country to the brink of a civil war because of the blindness of a few who, being involved in past wrongdoings, feel that they have no alternative but to continue. It is to them precisely that we demand that they abandon their attitude and let the people again have confidence in democracy and freedom.

We, the signatories of this document, want to make it quite clear that the people and history will judge our actions, that we have no commitments with any political or partisan group, and we are issuing this statement strongly convinced that the fatherland, the Bolivian people and the military demand that we act with courage and dedication. We have approximately 250 signatures of officers, noncommissioned officers and soldiers of the La Paz Garrison and of the various interior districts who reject the present regime and whose names we are not disclosing for obvious reasons, but we assume responsibility for the veracity of this assertion.

We are not alone because 90 percent of our comrades in the armed forces will follow our steps until returning to the people what is legally theirs. Long live Bolivia!

Uprising at El Alto Denied

PY160133 La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 15 Nov 79 PY

[Excerpt] Air Force Commander Gen Jaime Nino Guzman has categorically denied reports that military personnel of the El Alto Air Base revolted against the government of Col Alberto Natusch Busch. He made this statement on leaving government palace this afternoon, after attending the regular cabinet meeting.

Reliable sources have reported in recent hours that military personnel of the El Alto Air Force Garrison revolted and that army personnel had foiled the uprising and occupied the base.

'Complete Unity' Within Armed Forces

PA160250 Paris AFP in Spanish 0221 GMT 16 Nov 79 PA

[Text] La Paz, 15 Nov (AFP)--The Bolivian Armed Forces Command reported tonight through an official communique that complete unity exists within the armed forces. The military report gave little importance to the news conference held by two lieutenant colonels in the army's active service, Rolando Saravia and Jorge Escobar, who affirmed today that there is no military unity and urged their comrades in arms to avoid the civil war.

The military communique was turned over to the press at a time when Col Alberto Natusch Busch is meeting with the country's main military officers in the government palace. The National Congress is currently analyzing the possibility of accepting the invitation of President Natusch to cogovern with the armed forces.

The Bolivian Labor Central rejected this invitation to participate in a cogovernment.

GOVERNMENT ACTIONS PRIOR TO NATUSCH RESIGNATION

Banks Closed Until 19 Nov

PY151355 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Nov 79 PY

[Text] Through the Bolivian Central Bank, the government has ordered the suspension of banking activities throughout the country beginning today, until next Monday. The communique released by the Supervision Department of the Bolivian Central Bank says that the closing of banks is the result of an intention to make basic adjustments in the financial system of the nation and to prevent unnecessary confusion in normal banking operations. The government measure also includes the currency exchange offices, and it is recommended that it be strictly observed. The communique says: The Bolivian Central Bank orders the closing of all banks in the republic on Thursday, 15 November and Friday, 16 November, with the intention of making basic adjustments in the financial system of the nation and to prevent unnecessary confusion in the normal operations of the banks. Operations will be resumed on Monday, 19 November, with the customary office hours.

La Paz, 14 November 1979, Supervision Department of the Bolivian Central Bank.

Respect of Press Rights

PY151208 La Paz INFOBOL Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0329 GMT 15 Nov 79 PY

[Text] Through the minister of information, Guillermo Riveros Tejada, and the secretary general of the presidency, Boris Marinovic, the government of Col Alberto Natusch Busch has formally agreed to "full and deep respect for the national press media at all levels." The government "has recognized the rights the constitution grants journalists, as well as the guarantees and privileges it establishes." In this regard the presidency issued a final document after the meeting government representatives held with leaders of the La Paz Federation of Newspaper Workers and the Journalists' Association.

Continued Andean Membership

PY151406 La Paz INFOBOL Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0450 GMT 15 Nov 79 PY

[Text] Federico Joffre, Foreign Ministry under secretary, pointed out that the government of Col Alberto Natusch Busch has no intention of taking any action that could move Bolivia away from the Andean Pact. He asserted that it is not in the mind or the will of the government to move Bolivia away from the Cartagena Agreement and that on the contrary, its objective is to strengthen the country's position within the Andean group by supporting all joint actions to the benefit of all member nations. He stated that the present position of the Andean foreign ministers is the result of the lack of information they have on the real purposes and objectives of the government of Col Alberto Natusch Busch.

MEXICAN FOREIGN MINISTER DOUBTS INCREASED OIL EXPORTS

PY152216 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 Nov 79 p 6 PY

[Excerpts] "Mexico exports just enough oil to generate the revenues it needs for its development plans. Thus our production is limited and it will continue to be so for the next few years. We are greatly interested in cooperating to reduce Brazil's energy problem, but our oil exports will not be in great supply in the very near future." This was said by Mexican Foreign Minister Jorge Castaneda upon his arrival yesterday at the Brasilia Air Force Base for an official 3-day visit.

Castaneda remarked that one of the principal reasons for his trip to Brazil is to set a date for an official visit by the Mexican president, Jose Lopez Portillo, during the first half of 1980. "The strengthening of trade relations, industrial cooperation and an extensive line of reciprocal political interests are sufficient reasons for a presidential visit," he remarked.

The Mexican foreign minister indicated that his country is very interested in cooperating with Brazil in the nuclear field, but he remarked that the topic is not sufficiently ripe for the signing of an agreement. "Principally, it will be a question of the necessary contacts between specialists of the two countries in order to identify the areas of interest and the concrete possibilities regarding cooperation."

Foreign Minister Guerreiro, on meeting Castaneda at the air force base, emphasized that cooperation between Brazil and Mexico is not just summed up in the purchase of oil. "As is the case with Venezuela, Mexico may absorb Brazilian products, services and technology. They are interested in purchasing and they possess the financial resources, from the export of oil, to pay for this type of operation without any problem."

Guerreiro emphasized that Brazil is interested in increasing its purchase of Mexican oil, the production of which is now only 20,000 [as printed] barrels a day: "We must understand that they need to adhere to their production planning. Nevertheless, I believe that within the range of their possibilities, Mexico will give Brazil special treatment."

The Brazilian foreign minister expressed concern about the current world economic order, which is very adverse to developing countries. "The industrialized nations have not given the necessary attention to North-South relations. Very little has been done to favor a more equitable participation of the developing countries in the world economy. On the contrary, there has been a proliferation of restrictive measures in trade, including an increase in protectionism."

U.S.-IRAN CONFLICT WORRIES EUROPE, COMMENTATOR SAYS

PY151424 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 15 Nov 79 PY

[Newton Carlos commentary relayed from Rome]

[Text] Europe is following with distress and even fear the conflict between the United States and Iran. None of the European countries has so far expressed a willingness to take sides with the United States by suspending the purchase of Iranian petroleum. There is no indication that the Europeans will support the U.S. position in its conflict with Iran, the outcome of which no one can predict.

There is concern and even fear in Europe about the possible movement of U.S. naval units in the Persian Gulf. No one seems to believe President Carter's remarks that the United States will not take any military action in its conflict with Iran.

There is a certainty which causes much fear, the certainty that neither of the two parties--the United States or Iran--will make the compromises capable of achieving a negotiated solution to the conflict. If this is true, that there is no chance of negotiating a solution to the conflict between the United States and Iran, what will the outcome of the crisis be? This is the question Europe is asking now with concern and even fear, much fear.

REPORTAGE ON FIGUEIREDO VISITS FOR NEXT YEAR

Ecuador, Romania Likely

PY150119 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 13 Nov 79 p 3 PY

[Excerpt] Brasilia--Brazilian diplomatic sources said yesterday that President Joao Figueiredo has two more trips on his agenda: to Ecuador and Romania, which "most probably the president will take next year, maybe before many people imagine".

Regarding Ecuador, the Brazilian intention is presumably to bring the two countries closer together because there is a certain distance between them despite the fact that they are signatories of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty. Ecuador is also an important oil producer and an effective OPEC member.

Regarding Romania, President Figueiredo's trip will open relations between Brazil and East Europe. The visit to Bucharest will be the first by a Brazilian head of state to a socialist state, and it will be primarily an economic trip aimed at expanding technical and trade cooperation between the two countries.

Paraguay Trip Rumored

PY151418 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 15 Nov 79 PY

[Text] Planalto Palace has admitted the possibility that President Figueiredo will visit some other country before going to Argentina at the beginning of next year. Although the country has not been revealed, there are rumors among Planalto Palace officials that it will be Paraguay.

Chile Repeats Invitation

PY151419 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 15 Nov 79 PY

[Excerpt] The Chilean Foreign Ministry has reported that the invitation extended to Brazilian President Joao Baptista de Figueiredo to visit Chile still stands. On releasing this report, the Foreign Ministry added that President Figueiredo would be very well received in Chile.

BRIEFS

OIL PROSPECTING IN AMAZON--The Brazilian Petroleum Corporation will invest 2 billion cruzeiros next year in oil prospecting in the Amazon region. Of this amount, 900 million cruzeiros will be earmarked for research in the Amazon region itself and 1.2 billion cruzeiros in the continental shelf. [numbers as heard] [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 10 Nov 79 PY]

PINOCHET DISCUSSES NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

PY152257 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 15 Nov 79 PY

[Excerpt] During a working breakfast with journalists assigned to Government House, President Augusto Pinochet discussed important national and international issues.

The following is a report for Onda Noticiosa.

The government will invest over $200 million in the public sector. This among other things will enable an increase in the housing allowance for low-income workers.

Regarding international issues, Pinochet noted that the judicial question of the Letelier case--which was widely discussed--has been solved by a court decision. The president added that unless there is new evidence--although there is a little chance that this will happen--Chile believes that with this court decision the Letelier case is closed.

The president explained that the proceeding currently underway is a military investigation to explain the falsification of passports. But, he noted, this is another issue. Consequently, all rumors come from biased factions and I have no idea why they are being spread.

Pinochet also disclosed that we were subjected to many threats. He said that he does not believe the United States will disregard a judicial proceeding.

He noted, furthermore, that the United States is involved in many serious problems, such as the Iran situation. Pinochet said: This is a very serious situation which might affect us if the suspension of oil supply is extended to Latin America. The situation can get worse, but it is difficult to predict anything.

The president noted, however, that despite these problems, there is a great influx of investments in Chile from the United States and other countries. He added that this is favorable evidence because no one wants to invest capital where there are problems.

Pinochet stated that Chile believes that the human rights situation has been overcome and that, therefore, it will not submit any proposal in this regard to the United Nations.

Regarding the OAS, the president reasserted that during the recent OAS General Assembly, the Bolivian Government wanted to change the objectives of the organization. It was later shown, he added, that there was no basis for this proposal.

Regarding Bolivia's landlocked situation, Pinochet said that Chile is willing to listen. He warned, however, that as long as there is no serious and solid basis to resume the dialog, Chile will do nothing.

Moreover, Pinochet noted that Bolivia never had a seacoast [as heard]. He added that this was merely something that Bolivia thought up. This was enough for some people to speak about a sea outlet through Antofagasta but disregarding Peru, though Chile has always had a border with Peru in the Loa Valley. This has always been our border. Bolivia came later and wanted to be a sort of buffer zone between the two countries.

President Pinochet disclosed that he has been promised many judicial and historical references concerning the alleged Bolivian outlet to the sea but, although he has waited patiently for them, Bolivian historians have not supplied him with any of the references they promised.

In this regard he said: We will not hand over any territory without proper compensation, and this compensation must be on the basis of an equal exchange. Consequently, the status quo will be maintained in this matter.

MINES MINISTER GIVES OIL, COPPER PRODUCTION FIGURES

FY141416 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 14 Nov 79 FY

[All figures as heard]

[Text] By the end of 1980, Chilean oil production will cover 23 percent of the nation's consumption. Copper production, however, will be somewhat less than this year's.

Mines Minister Carlos Quinonez made this and another announcement during a press conference. The minister said that the new oil well (?Spike Two) in the Strait of Magellan will start operating by the end of November. With this new well, production of the National Petroleum Enterprise, ENAP, will increase by 40 percent. Last year ENAP drilling produced 900,000 cubic meters, and with these new wells, it is estimated that oil production by the end of this year will total 1.2 million cubic meters. Another four drilling towers will be operating by the end of 1980. These new towers will increase production to 2 million cubic meters, which represents 33 percent of the nation's oil consumption. Furthermore, negotiations with oil suppliers are being held to insure oil supplies for next year. The mines minister said that the best terms are being sought. He added that, in any event, Chile will purchase a total of $800 million by the end of the year.

Moreover, Quinonez noted that it is estimated that copper production will decrease next year and that it will total about 890,000 tons in 1979. He explained that copper prices have increased due to a decrease in international stocks and production. He added that investments for next year in the large-scale copper production sector are estimated at $85 million. He noted that new investments in this sector are being studied and that the government must make a decision on this by the end of the year.

The mines minister gave details about the recent meeting of the intergovernmental Council of Copper Producing Countries, CIPEC, during which the members decided to increase the publicity budget since world consumption has increased by 2 percent while aluminum consumption has increased by 7 percent. He noted, however, that there are certain sectors in which copper is irreplaceable. Moreover, measures to promote trade were also introduced. For example, those countries which produce high grade copper will be paid slightly more than the London metal exchange rate. Quinonez explained that copper value will depend on prices at the time of shipping, thus favoring copper-producing countries.

BRIEFS

CIVILIAN ORGANIZATIONS DIRECTOR APPOINTED--Lt Col Oscar Vargas Guzman has been appointed director of the Civilian Organizations Department. He replaces Col Sergio Badiola. [Santiago Chile Domestic Information Service in Spanish 0315 GMT 15 Nov 79 FY]

STRIKING FINANCE MINISTRY WORKERS OCCUPY MEXICAN EMBASSY

PA151745 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[Excerpts] Bogota--The Finance Ministry employees, who have been on strike for 85 days, have invaded the Mexican Embassy in a bid to bring international pressure to bear in their labor conflict and to press the government into agreeing to their demands. Simultaneously other workers have occupied the cathedrals in Barranquilla, Cartagena, Santa Marta, Valledupar and Monteria to exert pressure and draw the public's attention to their case.

A spokesman for the Union of Finance Ministry Employees said, "We went to the Mexican Embassy because Mexico is the most democratic country in Latin America." Mexican Ambassador Ricardo Galan said he is negotiating with the strikers the convince them to leave the embassy. He added if his efforts fail, he will have to ask for instructions from his country's foreign secretariat.

Galan reported the issue here is not only the seizure of the embassy but the fact workers have asked him to allow them to stay in it. The workers have given a letter to the ambassador accusing the Colombian Government of violating human and labor rights. They assert 923 workers have been arrested and 700 have either been dismissed or suspended during the strike.

The strike has been declared illegal by the Labor Ministry because it involves a public service. The Colombian constitution bans strikes in this sector.

Occupation Continues

PA152146 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--As of noon today, no change had been reported in the situation at the Mexican Embassy, which was seized 26 hours ago by Finance Ministry employees. The employees--19 men and 1 woman--have been well treated by Mexican Embassy officials. Another source reported that the invaders are 15 men and 5 women. Nevertheless, the government has issued no statement on the case although there is great expectation regarding a possible mediation by Government Minister German Zea Hernandez.

Governor [as heard] Ricardo Galan said he is consulting his government but that any possible intervention by him would be limited because the case involves a labor and not a political conflict.

Meanwhile, strikers have continued to seize churches in the country. Today, 40 strikers occupied the San Francisco Cathedral in Sincelejo.

Workers Asked to Vacate Embassy

PA152147 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--The Mexican Government today asked 20 striking Finance Ministry employees to vacate its embassy in Bogota. The request was made through Ambassador Ricardo Galan, who told Radio Cadena Nacional that Mexico respects human rights but feels the occupation is illegal in this case.

Galan explained that this is a labor and not a political problem; therefore, the situation is totally different.

GOVERNMENT REPEATS REQUEST FOR SAFE-CONDUCTS FROM NICARAGUA

PA141827 Paris AFP in Spanish 2102 GMT 13 Nov 79 PA

[Text] Bogota, 13 Nov (AFP)--It was officially announced here today that Colombia has again requested that the Nicaraguan Junta of National Reconstruction grant safe-conducts to over 100 refugees who are at the Colombian Embassy in Managua. Tito Mosquera, under secretary of foreign policy, announced that he has sent a new note in this regard to the Nicaraguan Government. He emphasized that so far none of his previous requests has received a favorable reply; therefore, the refugees remain in the embassy.

TURBAY CANCELS MEETINGS, APPEARANCES; REPORTEDLY ILL

PA152140 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--The Narino Palace announced at noon today that the president canceled his scheduled meeting with the new Colombian beauty queen, Maria Patricia Arbelaez Pelaez. The president canceled the meeting apparently because of health problems. As has been already reported, President Turbay Ayala has suspended practically all his public appearances and special meetings, including the customary meetings with the ministers over the past few days. The president's close advisers have not confirmed reports on the president's illness.

FORMER PRESIDENT LOPEZ MICHELSEN MAY FACE TREASON CHARGES

PA151532 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--Former President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen and Idalecio Lievano Aguirre, who was foreign minister during his administration, may be formally accused of treason against the fatherland, according to many members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee headed by Alvaro Garcia Herrera. The veteran Liberal politician disclosed that the present Panamanian Government deceived Lopez and his foreign minister into relinquishing many Colombian rights in the Canal Zone solely to facilitate Panama's negotiations with the United States.

FARC GUERRILLA OPERATIONS CONTINUE

Ambush Patrol, Attack Town

PA141839 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2305 GMT 13 Nov 79 PA

[Text] Planadas, Colombia, 13 Nov (EFE)--A noncommissioned officer and a carabineer (mounted police) died today during a guerrilla attack on the town of Las Delicias, Tolima Province, in the southwest. According to the local police headquarters, Corp Jaime Avila and Carabineer Daniel Baron were in charge of a patrol of carabineers attacked by guerrillas in the mountains. According to a military spokesman, some 50 Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) guerrillas (Marxist) ambushed the patrol and wounded several men.

Another FARC guerrilla column this morning attacked and pillaged the town of Bilbao, between Tolima and Huila provinces, robbed several shops and state offices and took a number of policemen hostage.

Assembly Leader Killed

PA121505 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Nov 79 PA

[Excerpt] Botota--The Quindio Assembly chairman was shot to death last night at his farm near Armenia. Several persons reportedly attacked the legislator and killed him when he began struggling. Deputy [Arconde] Franco was elected chairman of the Quindio Assembly in October, and his death has created a stir in the department.

Guerrillas Identified

PA100326 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 9 Nov 79 PA

[Text] Botota--Important Defense Ministry sources have confirmed that army units and guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia engaged in a spectacular shootout today that left two insurgents dead.

The clash occurred in Cerro Cuchillo, Santander Department, on the banks of the Tumaradocito River. Military sources said seditious elements ambushed the military patrol. However, the patrol repelled the attack and two guerrillas were killed.

The dead guerrillas have been indentified as Manuel (Raboa) and Daniel Osorio Osorio, lieutenants of Tiro Fijo. The casualties were carrying documents and plans of the town of Cerro Cuchillo, which they were planning to attack in the next few days.

BRIEFS

NEW VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR--Bogota--Colombia and Vietnam have formalized their diplomatic relations at the level of nonresident ambassadors. Ambassador (Troan An) presented his credentials to President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala in a simple ceremony in Narino Palace. [Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Nov 79 PA]

1980 BUDGET APPROVED--Bogota--By absolute majority, the Senate has approved the national budget for fiscal year 1980. It amounts to 153,690 billion pesos. It also approved the budgets of decentralized agencies, whose overall total is 125.9 billion pesos. [Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Nov 79 PA]

RECOGNITION OF NEW SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED

PA152024 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[Text] The Ecuadorean Government announced last night it has decided to recognize the new Salvadoran Government. It also expressed hope the goals which the Salvadoran revolutionary junta has set will be achieved.

GOVERNMENT MINISTER TALKS ABOUT PRESIDENT'S VETO

PA151548 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 1255 GMT 14 Nov 79 PA

[Interview with Ecuadorean Government Minister Roberto Dunn Barreiro on 13 November 1979 in Quito--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Why do you think that the dialog with congressmen is positive?

[Answer] Because congressmen, as well as the members of the executive branch, are interested in harmoniously overcoming their differences in an effort to consolidate democracy in our country.

[Question] Is there any possiblility of a change in the cabinet as result of this dialog?

[Answer] My dear friend, many things are being said, but the fact is these dialogs are being held for the benefit of the nation. We must, therefore, wait for the results.

[Question] Many congressmen say they oppose the veto to the legislative bill. What do you think about this?

[Answer] In a democratic regime we are free to express ideas and opinions. The executive branch thought it was in the country's best interest to veto the bill.

[Question] What will be the consequence of this veto? [words indistinct]

[Answer] Absolutely none. The Chamber of Representatives will be without an organic law until next year. As we all know, the Chamber met for 60 days without an organic law, functioning only with its internal regulations.

[Question] Could the veto be interpreted as a reprisal?

[Answer] It was not meant as a reprisal on the part of the government. It is just that the government must see democracy is practiced and the country's interests are respected. Furthermore the government has done everything openly. How could anyone accept a bill which says the president of the republic can be dismissed by 24 votes of the Chamber of Representatives, while it takes 35 to dismiss a minister? Some congressmen have admitted this position is correct.

[Question] [Words indistinct] could the Chamber of Representatives approve a legislative bill acceptable to the executive branch?

[Answer] Well all this is subject to interpretation. The executive branch thought it was best to veto the bill considering the political structure of the chamber.

[Question] Has the veto stopped the dialog that could lead to an understanding between the legislative and executive branches on this issue?

[Answer] No, on the contrary. I would say it has made things clearer. The majority of congressmen have expressed their interest in reaching a harmonious solution to the problem.

[Question] Have you consulted all sectors?

[Answer] Yes, all sectors are participating in the dialog. Everyone is interested in finding a just solution.

[Question] Do you have the support of the majority of members of Concentration of Popular Forces? Has Assad Bucaram participated in the dialog?

[Answer] Mr Bucaram made some public statements a few days ago which were published in your newspaper.

[Question] Would you have any objection to talking with Mr Bucaram?

[Answer] Certainly not; it would be a pleasure to talk to him.

[Question] Do you feel that there is a majority in favor of the president [words indistinct]?

[Answer] That majority favors the country and democracy and not the president.

[Question] It has been said President Roldos has lost his popularity by vetoing so many bills. What is your opinion?

[Answer] No, he has not lost or taken advantage of his popularity. As you all know he is responsible for his acts to the millions of Ecuadoreans who voted for him and he must also think of the welfare of the 7 million Ecuadoreans of whom he is president. He wants to carry out his government programs and his 21 point program. He wants to make a government in which economic development and social justice, of which he has talked so much, is a fact. President Roldos is so conscientious about his duty to the nation and the people that he does not think of his popularity when he vetoes a bill.

[Question] Nevertheless the steps taken by the democratic government in these first months in power have not been precisely to consolidate democracy. As a matter of fact there have been some excesses committed on behalf of that democracy. Could you comment on this?

[Answer] I totally disagree with you. From the beginning all steps taken by the government have been to consolidate the democratic process in our country. The three branches--legislative, executive and judicial--are operating independently and normally. Ecuadoreans are free to express opinions and proof of this is this dialog we are holding at this moment.

[Questions] Do you think that President Roldos is trying to control the other branches of the state?

[Answer] No sir, the constitution says the country will have a presidential system which gives the president of the republic the power to be a president as every Ecuadorean wants him to be. They do not want a president who is a figurehead and who is easy for any sector to manipulate.

PRESIDENT SAYS 'BOLIVIAN EXPERIENCE' CANNOT OCCUR HERE

PA152022 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1909 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[Text] Lima, 15 Nov (EFE)--Peruvian President Gen Francisco Morales Bermudez said here today the Bolivian experience will not be repeated in Peru because "the situations cannot be compared." The president said he hopes "the Bolivian people and institutions will find the path of peace and freedom."

He added the Peruvian process is very different even though there are political parties which do not agree with the regulations for the May 1980 elections. The president said these regulations are in strict compliance with the new constitution, promulgated by the Constituent Assembly in July, which will go into effect in July 1980.

He said it would be good for the country if one party or a group of parties wins 36 percent of the vote, which the constitution establishes as necessary to directly assume the presidency. If this does not occur, the Congress will elect a president from the two parties which obtained the highest number of votes. "There will be no third positions," he stressed.

I do not doubt this will occur because "there is no other solution and the civilians are the ones most interested in a civilian and democratic solution, he noted. If this does not occur, "an historic mistake will be committed. The civilians who are calling for a constitutional system must avoid this mistake," he said.

GARCIA BEDOYA DISCUSSES BOLIVIAN SEA OUTLET

PY151733 Santiago Chile HOY in Spanish 13 Nov 79 pp 9, 10, 11 PY

[Undated exclusive interview with Peruvian Foreign Minister Carlos Garcia Bedoya by Jaime Moreno Laval in La Paz, Bolivia]

[Excerpts] [Question] Bolivia believes that a corridor in northern Chile would solve its landlocked situation. Is Peru willing to accept this proposal?

[Answer] As is known, this idea of a corridor is not new. There were negotiations on this 3 or 4 years ago. When this proposal was made, Peru--as was only natural and legal--was involved in the decision-making on this issue because of its inherent rights in accordance with the 1929 treaty. At that time, Peru made what it considered a realistic and practical proposal, one which, from our point of view, would have meant an important step toward achieving firm negotiations which would lead to a solution.

Unfortunately, this Peruvian proposal was not heard, but we believe that it is still valid. This is shown by the fact that our country is willing to consider the proposal of a corridor whenever it is submitted for proper negotiations, and the interests of all the parties involved are considered.

[Question] Under what conditions would Peru accept a corridor?

[Answer] Peru believed--and I repeat what was already explained in the previous negotiations--that this corridor, which is adjacent to the Peruvian-Chilean border, should run in an area to be shared by the three countries. Through this corridor, Bolivia would solve its landlocked situation and the three countries could establish a development zone. [paragraph continues]

This development zone would not only be an interesting integration experience but also a source of friendship and trust and a guarantee for the future.

[Question] Has Peru discussed this possibility with the Bolivian authorities?

[Answer] Of course not. We cannot hold any talks because this is an issue which concerns Chile, and at the moment, only Chile and Peru.

[Question] Does Peru mind that its southern border will be changed?

[Answer] We have not really thought about that yet. It will depend on what circumstances and characteristics the negotiations take.

TWO U.S. TUNA BOATS FINED FOR FISHING WITHOUT PERMITS

PA151304 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0136 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[Excerpt] Lima, 14 Nov (EFE)--Two U.S. and one Spanish tuna boat were seized and fined "for operating without permits in the jurisdictional waters" of northern Peru, an official source reported today. The U.S. Embassy had told EFE eight U.S. boats had been seized and taken to the port of Talara, some 1,200 km north of Lima. A U.S. Embassy consular official traveled to Talara to get information on the incident before a U.S. State Department statement was issued.

The Talara harbor master's office, however, indicated there must have been a mistake since other ships, some with U.S. registry, arrived at the port to voluntarily pay for fishing licenses. "For us it was a routine incident which we consider closed since a local shipping agency has promised to pay the fines of the three boats," a port spokesman said.

He insisted only three boats had been seized and a $50,000 fine imposed on each. The boats are the "Janjanet Lou" and the "Stacie Antonet" of the United States and the "Isabel II" of Spain. According to the Talara harbor master's office, the three ships were captured for "operating irregularly" inside the 200 mile zone over which Peru claims full sovereignty. A navy ship captured [words indistinct] the crew of the three boats offered resistance.

The harbor master's office said the U.S. "White Star" and the Costa Rican "Salamanca" tuna boats had voluntarily paid for licenses to fish in Peruvian jurisdictional waters.

The incident renews the "tuna war" which Peru and other countries that have proclaimed national jurisdiction and sovereignty over 200 maritime miles have been waged primarily with the United States.

BRIEFS

IRRIGATION PROJECT WITH YUGOSLAVIA--A contract has been signed between the Peruvian and Yugoslav Governments for construction of the second stage of the irrigation project in Piura. [Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Nov 79 PY]

MILITARY PLOT TO KILL POLITICAL PRISONERS ALLEGED

PY101722 Paris AFP in Spanish 1237 GMT 10 Nov 79 PY

[Text] Paris, 10 Nov (AFP)--A plot to eliminate political prisoners regarded as "dangerous" by Uruguayan military officials was disclosed here today by the Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners in Uruguay (CDPPU).

The CDPPU charges that "the military intends to get rid of those prisoners to be able to stage an amnesty for other prisoners and thus improve Uruguay's foreign image."

The CDPPU, which cites testimony by former prisoners and reports from detention centers, states in its communique that "the plot to murder political prisoners is known as the 'Attica Plan' and would be the culmination of intensified provocations--this is, threats of execution, rumors and torture--which have been underway in the Libertad Prison (where approximately 1,300 political prisoners are detained) since last August."

BRIEFS

SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS--Montevideo, 8 Nov (AFP)--The Uruguayan National Telephone Administration (ANTEL) has reported that it has signed a contract with an Italian consortium for the construction of a satellite communications station which will start operating in about 9 months. It will have direct telephone channels to the FRG, Canada, Spain, the United States, France and Italy. The station will have a total capacity of 60 telephone channels. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1443 GMT 8 Nov 79 PY]

AGREEMENT WITH ITALY--Montevideo, 8 Nov (AFP)--A reciprocal agreement on social security was signed Wednesday by Uruguay and Italy. This agreement will benefit workers of the two countries and especially Italian residents in Uruguay. The ceremony was attended by Giorgio Santuz, Italian vice premier, and Uruguayan Foreign Relations Minister Adolfo Folle and Labor and Social Security Minister Jose Etcheverry. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1542 GMT 8 Nov 79 PY]

DEFENSE JUNTA REPRESENTATIVE--Rear Adm (Hugo de Barros) left for Washington today. He will take the post of chief of the Uruguayan mission to the inter-American defense junta. [Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1500 GMT 13 Nov 79 PY]

BRAZILIAN NAVAL STUDENTS--A delegation of the naval war school of the Brazilian navy arrived at carrasco airport. The delegation was met by Navy Commander Vice Adm Hugo L. Marquez. [Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1500 GMT 13 Nov 79 PY]

TRADE DEFICIT--Montevideo, 14 Nov (LATIN)--The Central Bank reported that during the first 8 months of this year trade showed a deficit of $108,064,000. Exports reached $519,572,000 and imports $627,636,000. Import of petroleum and petroleum byproducts reached $180,337,000 of which crude oil reached $141,670,000. [Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1335 GMT 14 Nov 79 PY]

PRESIDENT HOPES FOR SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO IRANIAN CRISIS

PA151706 Paris AFP in Spanish 1645 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[Text] Caracas, 15 Nov (AFP)--Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins has commented that the crisis between the United States and Iran is becoming increasingly dangerous. The president said his government is very carefully studying this crisis and it wants to obtain more information which will indicate a solution to the situation. Herrera Campins indicated that due to the energy crisis events in a country such as Iran undoubtedly have repercussions for the entire world as was confirmed with the shah's fall. The Venezuelan president reiterated statements by Venezuelan officials during the past few days to the effect that Venezuela's petroleum production is at its maximum and this would make sales to the United States difficult. The United States has decided to stop purchasing petroleum from Iran. That possibility has not been proposed to us, the president said. He said it is very difficult to announce or promise a hypothetical increase of the petroleum production. That is why I have said that we want this confrontation to be solved satisfactorily in accordance with the civilized means which exist in the 20th century, he added.

TALKS BETWEEN STRIKING TEACHERS, GOVERNMENT STALEMATED

PA150026 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 1530 GMT 14 Nov 79 PA

[Arnoldo Peroza report]

[Text] The conflict between the teachers unions and the Education Ministry has virtually reached a stalemate following the decision the teachers adopted yesterday to continue the strike. The order has been heeded by 100 percent of the teachers throughout the country.

Education Minister Rafael Fernandez Heres is now meeting with Education Ministry directors in his office to draft a statement for release in the next few hours. It has been reported that Fernandez may address the country over radio and television.

The teachers joint command is meeting at its headquarters after declaring itself in permanent session yesterday. A communique is being drafted to list conditions for resuming talks with the education minister. These are some of the conditions: absolute job security for teachers; discussion or improvement of offers made thus far by the Education Ministry; and discussion of appropriate socioeconomic clauses (?for) an agreement. The offers submitted by the Education Ministry have not been discussed. The teachers also demand an end to unwarranted dismissals and transfers and no sanctions on the part of the ministry.

A fifth condition to resume talks is an end to the Education Ministry's current television campaign, which the command says runs into millions. This campaign is being conducted by the Tourism and Information Ministry on the country's leading stations.

The Education Ministry is expected to release a statement in the next few hours stating its position on the nationwide strike and the conditions set by teachers.

COMMENTARY ANALYZES U.S.-IRAN CRISIS

PA160244 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2330 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[News Analysis]

[Excerpt] The occupation of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran by a group of Muslim students and the holding of over 60 U.S. citizens hostage is on the way to becoming the most serious international crisis of President Jimmy Carter's administration. The situation has reached such a delicate and dangerous level that the U.S. President called a state of national emergency.

The Iranian students holding the U.S. hostages at the embassy in Iran ask the extradition of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlevi in exchange for the lives of the U.S. citizens. Washington cannot give in to these demands for obvious reasons of prestige, authority and principles. The United States cannot submit to terrorist blackmail.

I have no sympathy for the shah and I believe that his rule was nothing but a long, cruel and repressive tyranny. However, I also believe President Carter cannot turn over the shah under pressure of a terrorist act such as the occupation of the embassy in Tehran and the capture of 60 hostages.

What the Iranian authorities could do is to negotiate a process for the shah's extradition and fulfill their purpose by legal means. Then they could bring the former monarch to trial.

While this event is a serious international crisis, especially for the United States, it also makes evident an already obvious fact. The Iranian Government is now in the hands of a group of religious fanatics led by a vengeful old man leading his country to disaster and chaos.

The Ayatollah Khomeyni, perhaps the most extraordinary and spectacular personality of the year, intends to rule his people by using the Koran to solve political, social and economic problems. He intends to solve these problems by quoting from religious texts.

So far he has created a phenomenal economic crisis in Iran and he has exacerbated the social and political problems inherited from the shah's tyranny. Khomeyni is only a religious despot leading his people's liberation process to complete ruin which could justify the crimes and abuses of the three decades of the shah's dictatorship.

Some days ago in Panama a Jewish religious leader said he was concerned over Iranian events because Khomeyni was forgetting the compassion every religious person should have. The rabbi also said he was concerned because Khomeyni gives the impression that a man of religion forgets compassion when he comes to power. This brings up the question of men of religion and religion in government. One of the wisest principles in liberalism is the separation of church and state. I believe the incursion of either of the two institutions into the other's grounds inhibits the operation of government on important matters.

The failure of the Ayatollah Khomeyni, the chaos he has created in his country and the absurd pretension of ruling a nation using the concepts of a fanatical and obsolete religious sect proves that religious ministers should not interfere in the governing of people. They should not enter into politics because the respect due to religion should not be transferred to politics.

Returning to Carter's problems, the present crisis in U.S.-Iranian relations emphasizes the problems he faces in seeking a new presidential term. In the United States he has been criticized for his decision to grant the shah an entry visa although it was temporary and resulted from the former monarch's illness.

For some political analysts in the United States, the holding of hostages in the embassy at Tehran and the limited alternatives open to Washington to solve the problem, once the military option had been discarded for tactical and strategic reasons, are evidence of impotence. This worries political and military analysts who fear this impression of weakness could encourage other actions or attacks by enemies of the United States who may feel tempted to test Washington's determination.

CROCAMO SAYS TORRIJOS' DAYS ARE NUMBERED

PA151920 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 12 Nov 79 p 6 PA

[Excerpt] According to Abraham Crocamo Arevalo, who has critically analyzed the current Panamanian situation, Torrijos' days as his country's strongman are numbered.

Crocamo, who between 1966 and 1968 was a member of Torrijos' military staff, is now exiled in Costa Rica and has been appointed spokesman of the Panamanian Nationalist Front (FNP), a civic and totally apolitical organization that includes students, peasants, workers, professionals, businessmen and members of the democratic political parties. According to him, "human rights are flagrantly violated in Panama" and "press freedom is violated."

Crocamo Arevalo is certain "Torrijos has no support among the masses" and believes "that was shown during the teachers strike, when more than 1 million people took to the streets to express their repudiation of the government. They did everything," he said, "to force a resumption of classes, including giving final orders to both parents and teachers, but they did not succeed."

Crocamo, who is convinced of the National Guard's important role, has affirmed that "Torrijos has only the support of the group of officers committed to him," which in his opinion is very small. According to the Panamanian exile, Torrijos does not have support among the younger officers, "who are aware of their double role as military officers and citizens. The same is true among the noncommissioned officers and the troops."

The FNP spokesman in our country claims Torrijos and the Communist Party have deceived Panamanians about recovering sovereignty in the Canal Zone. "In view of the existing power vacuum, Torrijos needed a rallying cry to maintain his position," Crocamo stresses. "So he used what he himself has described as the religion that unites all Panamanians: the canal. The Communist Party, which supported brother Torrijos," he went on, "immediately joined the government through different paths and at different levels and began what has been described as the recovery of Panamanian sovereignty over the Canal Zone."

According to Crocamo, Torrijos' aide Dr Romulo Escobar Bethancourt, Aristides Royo and Adolfo Ahumada all participated in this. "Economic improvements," he notes, "took a back seat; the immediate issue became the expulsion of Americans from the zone. The government did not permit any public debate of the draft treaties and after a series of arrangements affirmed that in the referendum 66 percent of Panamanians voted for the treaties."

He explained, "The Americans were interested in the construction of another sea-level canal and in defending the permanence of their troops in Panama as long as they consider it suitable. Torrijos and Carter reached an agreement on the permanence of U.S. troops in Panama and changed the word perpetuity for the term 'eternity.' They also guaranteed the construction of another canal. Conclusion: Sovereignty is not recovered."

"This can be seen," he says, "in U.S. Senator Deconcini's demands that an amendment be included in the treaties explaining that Americans can intervene in Panama whenever they deem it suitable, including in the event of strikes that might affect the proper functioning of the canal."

U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRIES ESTABLISHED

PA151942 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 14 Nov 79 p B-1 PA

[Text] Some 200 U.S. companies which operate in the country have invested more than 3 billion balboas. It is estimated that only 50 percent of the banks operating in the country have ties with the United States. The great flow of business in the country and the hopes for improvement in the national economy with the implementation of the new treaties have prompted the establishment of a U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Industries. The recently established organization is aimed at promoting the export of products to other countries, developing foreign investments in Panama and fomenting trade between our country and the United States. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Industries is linked to the Chamber of Commerce of the United States and has approximately 17,000 members who represent all kinds of companies.

The spokesmen of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Industries believe that now is the "right time" to invest in the Republic of Panama and the establishment of that organization in Panama "is a vote of confidence" that U.S. businessmen have given for the future of Panama.

The chamber is made up of 80 founding members representing export companies, U.S. distributors, financial institutions and other businesses. According to U.S. Ambassador Ambler H. Moss Jr, great opportunities for foreign investments exist in Panama and now is the ideal moment to promote them.

FOREIGN CANAL EMPLOYEES MUST OBTAIN WORK PERMITS

PA152308 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 15 Nov 79 pp 1, 10-A PA

[By Carmen Olmedo]

[Text] A large number of workers covered by Law 25 of 4 September 1979 have not appeared at the Labor and Social Welfare Ministry, the body authorized to grant provisional work permits to foreigners employed by the canal.

Dr Jose Ceballos Jr, legal advisory director, reports that "only 89 permits have been issued thus far. As of 16 November 1979 the ministry will be compelled to apply the pertinent sanctions."

The labor official noted that "up until now the ministry has been tolerant and has not issued the required fines that range from 150 to 500 balboas. We wish to facilitate the practical implementation of the treaties to the extent possible."

Article 9 of the Panama Canal treaty deals with people who 6 months before the treaty entered into force were engaged in nonprofit activities in what is known today as the Ancon and Cristobal corregimientos. They may continue to work under the conditions established by the 1 October 1979 treaty implementation for a transitional period of 30 months. This article led to the issuance of Law 26 of 4 September 1979 which grants permits for a 10-month period that can be extended.

The Labor Ministry has prepared the necessary documents to facilitate work for both law professionals and workers concerned, organizing the system so permits are issued the same day they are requested.

Workers employed in the canal area who do not benefit by Law 26 of 4 September 1979 will have to follow the existing regular channels to obtain their respective work permits.

GUATEMALA

OFFICIAL ORDERS EXPULSION OF NICARAGUANS, SALVADORANS

PA160422 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2247 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 15 Nov (ACAN-EFE)--Salvadorans and Nicaraguans, mostly refugees from their countries, must leave Guatemala before the end of December "to keep foreigners from ousting Guatemalans someday." This statement was made today by the director general of immigration, Col Raul Alvarez Belteton, who announced the measure which was adopted in view "of the exaggerated number of foreigners presently in the country." He added that the majority of these foreigners have not even tried to obtain legal residence status in the country. The largest number of refugees entered the country during the recent political unrest in Nicaragua and El Salvador. It is, therefore, the nationals of these two Central American countries against whom the measure is particularly directed. According to the immigration director general, the foreigners "not only engage in many delinquent activities but also take jobs away from Guatemalans."

NICARAGUA

D'ESCOTO DISCUSSES HONDURAN CONFLICT AT CONFERENCE

PA152204 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1824 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 15 Nov (ACAN-EFE)--Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Father Miguel D'Escoto announced here last night that the border conflicts between Nicaragua and Honduras are due to "a problem within the army" of the neighboring country. Lecturing at a conference on Nicaraguan foreign policy, Foreign Minister D'Escoto replied to questions, one of which dealt with Nicaraguan-Honduran relations. He said the problem within the Honduran army lies with its leaders because some Honduran officers do not understand the Nicaraguan revolutionary process.

"They are antirevolutionary military men and fascists who are afraid the good Nicaraguan example may gain strength. This is why they are uneasy," Father D'Escoto added.

Referring to border and diplomatic incidents between the two countries, Foreign Minister D'Escoto noted that "they are problems which occur against the government's will." He said in view of the recent raid on the home of Nicaraguan Ambassador to Honduras Ricardo Wheelock, Honduran Foreign Minister Eliseo Perez Cadalso had gone to Managua to apologize personally and to guarantee that what occurred "was not the will of the Honduran Government because the Honduran Government wants to maintain good relations with Nicaragua."

HENRY RUIZ ENDS VISIT TO USSR; HASSAN LEAVES FOR U.S.

PA151723 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[Text] Nicaragua hopes its trade with socialist and African countries will permit it to overcome the imbalance caused by the unequal trade with the United States and the rest of Central America, said Henry Ruiz, member of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] National Directorate. Ruiz just ended a visit to the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Libya and Algeria where he concluded important technical aid agreements.

Moisses Hassan, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, left for the United States to attend a meeting of committees of solidarity with Nicaragua. The participants in the meeting will decide the U.S. people's economic and material aid to Nicaragua in 1979.

Meanwhile Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge has said in Managua the FSLN National Directorate is angry about recent abuses committed in that country, some of which are very serious and grave. In a press conference, Borge said despite the climate of freedom and democracy which the Nicaraguan people are enjoying for the first time, some authorities of the interior of the country and Managua have committed excesses.

DIPLOMATIC MISSION LEAVES FOR GUATEMALA

PA152220 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[Text] A Nicaraguan diplomatic mission headed by Marco Antonio Gonzalez, Foreign Affairs Ministry foreign policy director, will leave this afternoon for Guatemala to open our embassy in that country. The Foreign Ministry reported that the personnel of our embassy in Guatemala has already been appointed except for the ambassador. The post has been offered to Marco Antonio Castillo, who so far has not accepted. Castillo is a well-known cotton grower from Leon who also runs other businesses in the capital. The Nicaraguan diplomatic mission in Guatemala has remained closed since the Somoza dictatorship was overthrown.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH ALBANIA

PA160312 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Affairs Ministry reports that in order to strengthen friendly relations and cooperation between the peoples and governments of Nicaragua and Albania, the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and the People's Socialist Republic of Albania have agreed to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level.

AID REQUESTED FROM LATIN COUNTRIES AT WOMEN'S MEETING

FL151329 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Nov 79 FL

[Text] Nicaragua has requested the cooperation of all Latin American countries and the economic commission for Latin America [ECLA] in all development programs being conducted in that Central American nation. The request was made by Maria Lourdes Vargas Escobar during yesterday's plenary session of the second regional conference on women's participation in development, which is meeting at the (Macuto Sheraton) Hotel located in the central beaches of Venezuela.

One of the problems being faced by the Nicaraguan Government, she declared, is the immediate implementation of a national literacy campaign because 70 percent of the population is illiterate, most of whom are women. The Nicaraguan people and government, she added, have many ideas, great enthusiasm to work and many projects for development but not the technical and financial resources to carry out those programs of economic and social development, which is why we ask for the cooperation of all countries in the region and ECLA to attain those objectives.

MEXICO SENDS 20,000 POUNDS OF MEDICINE

PA151803 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Nov 79 pp 1, 10 PA

[Text] Engr Alfonso Robelo told LA PRENSA during a news conference the government is waiting for a 20,000 pound-shipment of medicine donated by the Mexican Social Security Institute to Nicaragua's single health system. Robelo, who just returned from a visit of several days in the Mexican republic, said the social security donation will partially alleviate the huge shortage of medicine in the country.

During his trip to Mexico, Robelo was accompanied by Deputy Public Health Minister Dr Juan Igancion Gutierrez, who remained a few more days in Mexico to make last minute arrangements for an agreement reached between the Mexico's Social Security Institute and Nicaragua's health system. With this agreement, the Nicaraguan single health system will join the network of suppliers [as published] of the Mexican social security which, in addition to providing a constant flow of medicines, will also offer most favorable prices to Nicaragua.

"This will not solve the problem entirely, but it will be a great help," Robelo said.

Another result of Robelo's trip was the acquisition of 150 buses from Mexico which will be used to alleviate the serious collective transportation problem of Managua. Robelo said the buses will arrive in Nicaragua before the end of the year and will greatly contribute to solving the transportation problem. As to negotiations for Mexican oil to be supplied to Nicaragua, Robelo noted PEMEX "is willing to sell oil to us, but is presently studying the conditions."

"We will have a definite answer in the next 15 days," he added.

Finally, Robelo announced that during his visit to Mexico he talked at length with President Jose Lopez Partillo, who confirmed that he wishes to visit Nicaragua in response to an invitation extended by the revolutionary government. Robelo took advantage of the opportunity to reiterate the invitation and Lopez Portillo said he will visit our country during the first 15 days of January 1980.

"I met with Lopez Portillo in his office," Robelo said, "And he clearly expressed to me his wish to visit our country, which is now free."

RALLY HELD TO COMMEMORATE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

PA151956 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Nov 79 PA

[Text] The Sandinist Workers Central (CST) and the Socialist and Communist Parties yesterday commemorated the Russian Revolution. The three organizations held an event at the workers plaza to commemorate the 62nd anniversary of the Russian Revolution.

Socialist Party member Domingo Sanchez was the first speaker. He explained the importance of the Russian Revolution and discussed the Nicaraguan revolutionary process, reviewing the various stages leading to the final insurrection.

Dr Alvaro Ramirez Gonzalez represented the Socialist Party. He stressed the importance of joining the central labor movement, the CST, and of having a single youth and women's organization.

[Begin recording] In order to (?prevent) the interventionist maneuvers of national and international reaction, Nicaraguan workers must unite politically into a single party. [applause, shouts of "Hail Unity"]

That party, companeros, already exists because with the weapons it has in its hands, and by outlining a program and pointing out the path of armed struggle it won a leadership position. It is the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN]! [Applause, shouts of "Hail the Communist Party" "Hail the FSLN"]

The best way to be a revolutionary, to be a legitimate child of Lenin in Nicaragua in 1979 is to participate in the political structures and mass organizations that the Sandinist front is creating. There cannot be two poles of the Nicaraguan revolution. There is just one, its political vanguard. The duty of all the rest, of those who at some point made ideological mistakes or supported ideological deviations, of those who did not realize that the only way to defeat Somoza's tyranny was through the use of weapons [applause], is to rectify those mistakes and support the Nicaraguan revolution. It is also our duty, in accordance with the guidelines of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and of Lenin, to organize a single labor union. [applause] [end recording]

Communist Party representative Eli Altamirano was the next speaker.

CST representative Denis Melendez delivered the closing speech and noted the Russian Revolution represented the oppressed peoples, first great political coup against Yankee imperialism and the break up of a political, economic, cultural and ideological system that exploits mankind.

SERGIO RAMIREZ DISCUSSES NEW INTERNATIONAL POLICY

PA160410 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Nov 79 PA

[Excerpts] Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the Junta of National Reconstruction, in his address at the opening ceremony of the seminar on international policy organized by the Central American University, said the Nicaraguan Government plans to make progress in insuring the nation's sovereignty in its international relations without risking the energies and security of its policy through rhetorical positions.

Ramirez Mercado stated that Nicaragua will not take the initiative in breaking relations with any country, despite provocations, because it is well known that these provocations come from the enemies of our revolution. Our struggle is not against the people, but against those specific sectors who do not represent the majority, he added.

Referring to the Central American Defense Council, Ramirez Mercado said Nicaragua will not abandon that organization. However, he said the government has never intended to use it for repression as Somozism did. It will be used to insure the defense of our territory in the case of aggression by our enemies.

The following is the statement by Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado on Nicaragua's commercial policy under the present revolutionary process.

[Begin recording] In our international policy we demand just treatment concerning the price of the products exported by Nicaragua. However, just treatment cannot be obtained individually. The small nations must associate themselves with others possessing similar interests and who must make similar demands internationally.

Thus, we have decided to participate actively in UN organizations and other economic bodies that defend the interests of the Third World nations. Our active position is evidenced by our ratification of economic agreements which Somozism never before wanted to ratify.

These are more or less the essential aspects of our international policy at this moment--our political nonalinement and our solidarity with those who are also defending their economic interests in the world struggle between the Third World and the superdeveloped capitalist powers in an effort to obtain just treatment in international trade. This leads us to look for new markets for our traditional products, including the exploration of new commercial relations with nations of the socialist bloc and with nations which previously offered no market for our traditional exports. [end recording]

WORKERS FRONT MILITANTS MEET WITH REVOLUTIONARY LEADERS

PA152136 Managua EL PUEBLO in Spanish 10 Nov 79 p 8 PA

[Text] Shortly before the Workers Front [FO] militants were released today, Commanders Tomas Borge and Jaime Wheelock met with them within a framework of unity to stress the importance of revolutionary unity in the building of a new society.

"We see things from a different political perspective. Today we must contribute specific solutions to the problems of the revolution because this revolution is ours, and it belongs to the exploited," Marvin Ortega commented.

Pablo Martinez, one of the FO's founders, referred to the need to march relentlessly toward socialism. In the course of this march, he said, the Marxist-Leninist organizations will confront various difficulties, and because the FO is a revolutionary organization it will become the target of reaction. Reaction seeks to deny the proletariat its right to exercise power.

Well known revolutionary labor leader Mario Perez mentioned the old saying, "Do not defend me, my friend" in connection with the reactionary sectors' silence on his capture. However, he was grateful for that silence because the sole basis of support of a truly popular organization is the exploited masses, and only the masses made their views known during the FO's most difficult moments.

The case of those companeros still in jail was also discussed at the meeting, and their names were put on a list to be turned over to the State Security Office, which will speed up their release. At a previous meeting, Tomas Borge was informed that several cars, mimeographic equipment and other possessions had been seized at the time of the various arrests. Commander Borge then told his underlings to take note of this.

DEMOCRATIC CONSERVATIVES SUPPORT DECISION ON COUNCIL OF STATE

PA152216 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 9 Nov 79 pp 1, 10 PA

[Communique issued by the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua; no date or place given]

[Text] Throughout our history, the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua [PCD] has always responded to patriotic calls during critical situations that threaten our fatherland's territorial integrity.

At this moment, Nicaragua's free sk is clouded by a new international crisis that poses a danger not only to our territorial integrity but to our revolution as represented by the program and statute of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. Foreign and domestic interests linked to Somozism are conspiring to alter the revolutions course--but this will not happen. The revolution is the fruit of untold sacrifices by the Nicaraguan people to whom our party is closely linked, and we are prepared to defend it as we would defend our fatherland. Consequently, we urge PCD members to be on the alert for any call the junta and the PCD may issue and to assume whatever position is assigned to us in the defense of our fatherland's most cherished interests, even to the point of sacrifice.

At the same time, the PCD is fully aware of the huge tasks facing the revolution in view of the social, economic and political problems inherited from the nefarious Somozist dictatorship. For this reason, the PCD felt that the establishment of the Council of State would provide a more direct way to cooperate in carrying out the revolution's work. Therefore, at no time did the PCD ask for its establishment to hinder the revolutionary process, as has been suggested by certain extremist minds lacking the necessary capacity to realize that our intentions were constructive. We strongly deny these insinuations. The reasons given by the government junta for installing the Council on 4 May 1980 constitute a response to concerns publicly voiced by us. This is a positive step to expedite the government's administrative work. Consequently, we support the decision as a show of revolutionary unity.

National Executive Council of the PCD

(Signed) Rafael Cordova Ribas

CDS REPLY TO DEMOCRATIC CONSERVATIVE PARTY COMMUNIQUE

PA152153 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 9 Nov 79 p 3 PA

["Aportes y Opiniones" column: "The Sandinist Defense Committees Reply to the Conservatives"]

[Text] In view of the publication of a Democratic Conservative Party (PCD) communique in the 21 October issue of LA PRENSA which offers some "constructive criticism" for the Sandinist Defense Committees (CDS), the Executive Committee of the Carazo CDS groups issues the following statement:

We want to remind the PCD gentlemen that our name is the Sandinist Defense Committees. We feel the use of the phrase "so-called Sandinists" is an insult to the dignity of our people and questions our Sandinist character. The defense committees are mass organizations in which most Nicaraguan people participate. They are called Sandinist because our people are Sandinist. Our people are Sandinist because they support the guidelines of our vanguard, the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN]. No one, we repeat, no one has the right to doubt the Sandinist character of our people.

We have also been accused of being sectarian, partisan and divisionist. All sectors that participated in the overthrow of the dictatorship are included in the CDS. They are now working to solve the immediate problems of our revolution, hasten the reconstruction tasks, defend the people's interests and effectively defend the revolution. All those "democratic" sectors that have alienated themselves have the obligation of joining the CDS and in this way can work for the development of our revolution.

Those who are sowing sectarianism and divisionism are a number of small political groups that do not want to participate in the tasks of the revolution because it goes against their interests. They devote themselves to activities the people recognize as being "counterrevolutionary." It would be good to ask these gentlemen if they have already joined the CDS. If they have not, in what way are they working for the revolution aside from making their "constructive" criticisms?

They are apparently annoyed that the people recognize the FSLN as their vanguard. The FSLN has always been our true vanguard which overthrew the genocidal dictatorship by fighting alongside the people. The FSLN represents the interests of the people and the proletariat. The people know the FSLN has been and always will be on the side of the people, while other political parties have only been concerned about holding posts and ministries.

These politicians also charge that the CDS are acting outside the law. We ask ourselves what law these gentlemen are talking about? The Somozist laws that prohibited free organization and were drafted by a small group of parasites for the benefit of some minorities? We believe these politicians are either ignorant or are trying to appear to be ignorant. They do not realize that we are carrying out a revolution and that we seek a popular democracy in which the people will be the ones who lay the groundwork for drafting laws, decrees and so forth. In concluding their unconstructive criticism, these gentlemen state that by controlling the issuance of visas, license plates and so forth, the CDS promote distrust and disunity. Let us examine this.

The people paid a high price for our revolution. The people fought the genocidal National Guard from behind barricades. The people shed their blood to achieve a free fatherland. In the same way the people fought to win the war, so too will they defend their revolution. It is through the CDS that the revolution will be effectively defended house to house, street to street, neighborhood to neighborhood. We in the CDS are ready to unmask anyone who attacks our revolution. The defense, vigilance and control tasks of the CDS are directed at uncovering all counterrevolutionary individuals (Somozists, Guardsmen, members of the anti-Somozist peoples militia and so forth). We believe the only ones who can feel "repugnance" or "distrust" are those whom we previously mentioned or those who believe that in one way or another they are accomplices. Or could it be that the PCD members are angry that the people are exercising that function?

These gentlemen should define their position once and for all and stop issuing "ill-willed" communiques that seek only to confuse the masses and international opinion. They should look up the meaning of "constructive criticism" in a dictionary.

The CDS: heart and muscle of the people's power!
The CDS: hands, eyes and ears of the revolution!
Let us increase production...let us crush the counterrevolution!
Executive Committee of the Carazo CDS groups.
Free fatherland or death!
Fatherland or death, we shall win!

BORGE WARNS AGAINST ENEMIES, VOWS RESPECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

PA151507 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[Text] Certain technicians, bank administrators of the Somozist dictatorship--smooth operators--are stealing our experts. This was stated by Interior Minister GMDR Tomas Borge Martinez at a press conference today.

Commander Borge called on all experts to join the revolutionary process and not to be deceived by the lies of our enemies who are urging them to leave the country and earn a few more dollars. It is at this moment that our experts must show they are true Nicaraguans and regard their integration into the reconstruction process as an honor.

He also referred to existing immigration difficulties regarding visa procedures, noting the problems are gradually disappearing to the point htat persons will soon be pleased at the attention they are given by these institutions. Regarding the penitentiary system he said: At present there are problems which were inherited from Somozism. For instance, he said visits are irregular due to the large number of Somozist prisoners and cramped conditions of the cells built by the Somozists.

Prisoners in our penitentiaries will be integrated to the production process, Interior Minister Tomas Borge Martinez has announced. The revolutionary people will not maintain parasites for an indefinite period of time. They must work. Commander Borge said, since many Somozists in prison are suffering from venereal diseases, the penitentiary system will establish a health program in coordination with the Health Ministry.

A so-called Murphy in the United States charged we had executed all Somozist prisoners in Nicaragua. Therefore, I recently took several U.S. Embassy officials to the Tipitapa model prison so that they could see for themselves that human rights are respected in Nicaragua.

Abuses have been committed against the people contrary to the will of the Sandinist front leadership and the Government of National Reconstruction, Interior Minister Tomas Borge added. For the first time in history freedom exists in Nicaragua and it could be due to this that several militia members are committing abuses which will be corrected immediately. Commander Borge said many persons have been arrested by the Sandinist front as result of false charges made by unscrupulous persons. We will not violate the essence of the ideals of the leader of our revolution, CMDR Carlos Fonseca, who maintained that above all revolutionaries must show love for their brothers and not mistreat them. We understand the justified hatred some militia members have toward Somozists, but we must act as true revolutionaries and not mistreat them. He concluded there are black sheep in the revolutionary process seeking to discredit the revolution.

LATIN AMERICAN NEWSMEN'S DECLARATION OF SUPPORT

PA152347 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Nov 79 PA

[The declaration of Managua issued by the first Latin American newsmen seminar on 11 November 1979 in Managua]

[Text] The defense of the Sandinist revolution is today the duty of everyone, including the newsmen of the continent. Latin American newsmen recognize the extraordinary contribution of Nicaraguan colleagues to the historic tradition of journalists in Latin America. This contribution has been a factor in the struggle waged on our continent for the real independence of our people.

We rejoice in the recent implementation of the press law which grants the people the right to inform, think and to be informed and establishes the ethical and revolutionary responsibility of newsmen.

We greet the establishment of the new NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY, which will serve as an efficient instrument in reporting the truth regarding the process of reconstruction promoted by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and the Sandinist National Liberation Front.

We denounced the Inter-American Press Association for its campaign of misinformation and lies concerning Nicaragua and for its intention to interfere in Nicaragua's domestic policy which aims to consolidate our revolutionary gains.

We accuse the transnational news agencies of prejudiced reports against Sandino's fatherland and the heroic efforts of the Nicaraguan people to build a new Nicaragua.

We condemn the economic pressures, diplomatic maneuvers and military provocations promoted by the United States directly and through third countries against the people's democratic and anti-imperialist revolution of Nicaragua.

Therefore, the delegates to the Carlos Fonseca Amador seminar urgently appeal to all democratic organizations and newsmen and to revolutionary and progressive forces of Latin America and the rest of the world to express the firmest solidarity with and broadest support for the Nicaraguan revolution.

We demand that the Federation of Latin American Journalists (FELAP) and the International Organization of Journalists (OIJ) have its branches and journalist organizations throughout the world express utmost solidarity with the Nicaraguan revolution and give professional and material support to the recently established new NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY. Support for the new NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY is support for the liberation struggle of peoples against oppression, exploitation, imperialism and war. It is a right and a duty.

GOVERNMENT, CHURCH REPORTEDLY REACH UNDERSTANDING

PA151613 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Nov 79 PA

[Excerpt] It can be inferred from the dialog among the government, Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) and clergy representatives that there is an understanding between the Catholic Church and the revolution. The bishops [will] issue a pastoral letter reporting on their talks with the revolutionary leaders.

The second meeting between the members of the Nicaraguan Episcopal conference and the revolutionary government leaders has been very well received by the various Nicaraguan sectors. The situation of the previous government's civilian and military officials who are currently in jail, the agrarian reform, unemployment, the popular economy, the upcoming national literacy campaign and the freedom of religion were all discussed Saturday at a meeting held at the apostolic nuncio's office in this capital.

The talks were held in a friendly atmosphere and dealt with the good, confusion, love, forgiveness which will lead to the necessary unity of the Nicaraguan family, the injustices that have occurred particularly in the departments and the church's contribution to the solution of these and other problems, Atlantic coast apostolic vicar Msgr Salvador (Schlaper) reported.

According to CMDR Tomas Borge, interior minister and a member of the FSLN National Directorate, the dialog was both open and constructive. He also affirmed the relations between the Catholic Church and the revolution have always been good. We have all promised to work together for our fatherland's reconstruction. I understand they will release a pastoral letter with their views on this meeting, Borge added.

Alfonso Robelo, who with Violeta de Chamorro and Sergio Ramirez represented the government junta at the talks, said: The bishops were frank and understanding about the problems of the people and the state. Their aid will be invaluable.

According to Msgr Pablo Antonio Vega, bishop of Juigalpa and Episcopal conference secretary, a path of healthy understanding has been opened. He added the Catholic Church will cooperate with the authorities to remedy all those things that go against the people's concept of freedom after their decisive massive support for the revolution.

[Begin Borge recording] [The talks] were very positive and showed a high degree of understanding of our problems. We discussed problems of the prisoners and our difficulties in solving those problems. The church will help us. We analyzed the Nicaraguan revolution and are now trying to find common viewpoints in order to make this process, which belongs to us all, advance.

[Question--unidentified speaker] Could it be said the church is willing to cooperate with this revolutionary process?

[Answer] It could be said there is a mutual understanding between the Nicaraguan church and revolution. [end recording]

ROBELO DISCUSSES NECESSITY FOR ECONOMIC COMMISSION

PA100357 Paris AFP in Spanish 2331 GMT 9 Nov 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 9 Nov (AFP)--The Sandinist government today announced the appointment of a high-level commission in charge of planning the country's economic reconstruction for 1980 and defining the role of private enterprise in the Nicaraguan revolution.

Official sources indicated that 1980 will be a critical year for the revolution, and an emergency development plan will be implemented after all economic sectors in the country are consulted.

Alfonso Robelo, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, said the commission is made up of seven work groups in charge of planning the country's policies for finance, labor, supply, employment and price control for next year.

Robelo said the country is going through important changes which will put an end to malnutrition, corruption, poor distribution of wealth and privileges for the rich. These changes will also increase the purchasing power of wages lost under the Somozist dictatorship.

After announcing that a modular change will take place in Nicaragua's economic system, Robelo reiterated that the country is moving to a socialist system in which those who have more will give more to benefit those who have less. He said this was a responsible trend and respectful of freedom. It is a gradual move without hasty measures which can affect production and it does not count on the cooperation of the bourgeoisie progressive sectors whom, thanks to their privileges, were able to go to the best colleges. We cannot do without their knowledge, Robelo pointed out.

Robelo spoke to members of the Association of Sales Executives and asked them to adapt themselves to the new concept--equalitarian and just--of the Nicaraguan economy. Finally, he told them not to be carried away with the idea of filling their pockets. He said they should end speculation and renounce the idea of making huge profits.

FIDEL CASTRO ATTENDS SUGAR HARVEST MEETING

FL101544 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 10 Nov 79 FL

[Text] Yesterday Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, presided over the national sugarcane harvest meeting which was held in the Palace of the Revolution Theater. The meeting was attended by delegations from all sectors involved the development of this basic economic activity. Raul Trujillo, vice minister for sugar production in the Agriculture Ministry, Marcos Lage, minister of the sugar industry, Irma Sanchez, president of the state committee for technical and material supply, and Diocles Torralba, vice president of the Council of Ministers, presented reports to the meeting.

In closing the meeting our commander in chief among other points called for the sugarcane harvest to be completed early and for special efforts to be made in sugarcane agriculture, mainly in the weeding activities. In another part of his remarks he said they should be demanding in all aspects of the sugarcane harvest and he said it was good news to hear that two new sugar mills will begin operations very soon.

Further on Fidel's Remarks

FL101901 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Nov 79 FL

[Excerpts] The commander in chief also referred to the consequences of the plague known as (rolla), but he stated that weed infestation was worse than any plague and called for this task to be carried out in the form of an emulation drive.

Fidel also called for firmness in all aspects of the sugarcane harvest and emphasized the need to fulfill the sugarcane planting plans which have been set. He pointed out that the quality of the sugar has to be improved by the industry, and therefore this should be the industry's main task.

Our commander in chief stated that a reserve of people and equipment should be established to come into action when sugar yields are low and to insure that the sugarcane harvest does not fall behind in March and April.

Lastly he said problems at the sugar mills have to be dealt with as soon as they become known, and he said that 1980 should be the most efficient year in sugarcane production.

UNION OFFICIAL DISCUSSES WAREHOUSING BACKLOG AT HAVANA PORT

FL122116 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2006 GMT 12 Nov 79 FL

[Text] Felix Baeza, secretary general of the merchant marine, port and fishing workers' trade union Havana City Province Committee, has stated that year after year close to 25,000 tons of miscellaneous merchandise remains warehoused at the Havana port because it is not known who ordered it. This statement was made by the militant worker leader at the third review meeting of historical dates emulation for the merchant marine, port and fishing sector in Havana City Province. Until recently the Havana port warehouses were completely overloaded with 160,000 tons of merchandise because 60,000 is what is permissible to be in transit there. [all figures as heard]

This situation has just two solutions--either the 25,000 tons of cargo, which no one knows to whom it belongs, is left in the port warehouses with the consequent damages occurring, or they are put on public sale.

At the meeting Felix Baeza also pointed to other problems faced by the most important port in the country. He stated that the difficulties faced in occupational training, health and safety and labor discipline are entirely subjective and also affects production. These can be resolved by the workers themselves. He said that at the Havana port there are still lumpen-proletarians and their presence can be seen in sporadic thefts and contrabands. There are only two solutions for this--either we educate them or we eliminate them.

He pointed out that Roberto Veiga, secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers (CTC), has stated that workplaces showing work or social indiscipline will not obtain or will lose the "heroes of Moncada" banner.

The following results were announced at the emulation review meeting: 40 workplaces of the sector fulfilled the emulation indicators, 12 did not fulfill their production plans, 3 did not fulfill their occupational health and safety plans, and 4 did not fulfill their labor discipline plans. During the meeting certificates were presented to workers and worker collectives which achieved the rank of vanguard.

Presiding over this meeting were two national work heroes from the merchant marine, port and fishing workers' trade union--(Roberto H. Flores) from the merchant marine and (Gumersindo Fernandez) from the fishing sector.

HAVANA SAYS U.S., PRC BLOCKING CUBA'S ELECTION TO UNSC

PA160410 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Nov 79 PA

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] The growing international prestige of Cuba has embittered its strongest enemies: U.S. imperialism and the Peking regime. Representatives of the United States and the PRC are trying to prevent Cuba from becoming a nonpermanent member of the UN Security Council.

At the last minute, Colombia decided to submit its application for the post. After 28 ballots at the UN General Assembly, Cuba obtained more votes than Colombia. However, it has not been able to obtain the two-thirds needed to occupy the post. This has resulted in a postponement of the balloting.

In 1949 and 1956, when Cuba was governed by cliques at the service of U.S. interests and was headed by a bloodthirsty dictatorship, Cuba's nomination to various positions was not opposed and enjoyed the enthusiastic support of the United States and its allies.

Now, however, when it is the voice of a free, independent and sovereign Cuba, aware of its obligations toward the nonalined nations and other developing nations, which will be heard at UN Security Council meetings, our nomination has triggered the strongest and most shameless maneuvers by the U.S. State Department, representatives of the PRC's ruling clique and allies of the United States to prevent Cuba's election.

Nevertheless, 28 successive ballots have shown that Cuba enjoys ample support within the United Nations. Only a deliberate blocking action by the United States, the PRC and other countries has prevented Cuba's election.

PUERTO RICAN SOCIALISTS ISSUE COMMUNIQUE IN HAVANA

PA151949 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 15 Nov 79 PA

[Text] The representation in Cuba of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party has issued a communique in Havana indicating the suspicious circumstances surrounding the death of patriot Angel Rodriguez Cristobal in a U.S. jail confirms imperialism's cruelty against those who fight for Puerto Rico's independence.

Rodriguez Cristobal was found hanged on Sunday in a cell of a U.S. prison in Tallahassee, Florida. The U.S. authorities claim it was a suicide. Countering this claim, the Puerto Rican Socialist Party stated, as was shown during his recent trial in the U.S. Federal Court in San Juan, the young patriot maintained a high anti-imperialist spirit and was not suffering from any depression which would lead him to commit suicide.

After noting the discrimination because of color, nationality and political ideology in the prisons in the southern United States, the communique indicated that Rodriguez Cristobal's death makes one fear for the fate of other Puerto Rican patriots held in U.S. prisons, such as Pedro (Baijes Chapel), Ismael Guadalupe, (Diego Lede) and Ramon (Alisea). Like Rodriguez Cristobal, they have been imprisoned for demanding the expulsion of the U.S. Navy from the Vieques Island municipality.

The communique demanded Rodriguez Cristobal's death be immediately investigated. It also asked that, as was agreed in August, the UN Decolonization Committee appoint a commission to investigate incidents such as the massacre of Cerro Maravilla and the increase of repression against the Puerto Rican patriots.

The Puerto Rican Socialist Party said it will ask Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the nonalined countries movement, to denounce these actions before the United Nations and to ask for rapid action by the UN Decolonization Committee.

ACTIVITIES OF SOVIET MILITARY DELEGATION

Meeting With Fidel Castro

FL161109 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Nov 79 FL

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Government, Thursday held talks with Army Gen Aleksey A. Yepishev, member of the CPSU Central Committee, hero of the USSR and chief of the main political directorate of the Soviet army and navy. During the talks, which were held in a very fraternal atmosphere, various current international topics were discussed. Army General Yepishev conveyed to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro the warmest greetings from the highest Soviet party, government and armed forces leaders.

Visit to Tank Unit

FL151829 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 15 Nov 79 FL

[Excerpt] The Soviet military delegation led by Army Gen Aleksey Yepishev has made a visit to a tank unit which included a tour of various installations of that unit. Accompanied by Brig Gen Sixto Batista Santana, the visitors observed the unit's organizational status and facilities and conditions for development of political-ideological work. During their stay at the unit, they also visited the Lenin-Marti Hall and a classroom where a political training class was in progress and talked with various combatants.

Soviet Embassy Reception

FL151201 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 15 Nov 79 FL

[Text] Last night Soviet Ambassador to Cuba Vitaliy Vorotnikov gave a reception in honor of Army Gen Aleksey A. Yepishev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chief of the main political directorate of the Soviet army and navy, and the military delegation accompanying him. The reception was attended by Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR], and FAR vice ministers, chiefs and officers as well as Soviet military specialists.

BURNHAM BEGINS VISIT TO SURINAME 15 NOV

FL142045 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 14 Nov 79 FL

[Text] Guyana's Prime Minister Forbes Burnham will tomorrow begin an official 3-day visit to Suriname. The Guyanese leader's visit is aimed at improving relations between the two countries which have a longstanding territorial dispute. Mr Burnham will be welcomed by a guard of honor and Suriname's leader Henck Arron and will pay a courtesy call on the head of state Dr Johan Ferrier. Later in the day, Mr Burnham will be holding talks with Mr Arron.

HOYTE SAYS BRAZILIAN BAUXITE WILL NOT AFFECT GUYANA

FL142114 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 14 Nov 79 FL

[Text] Guyana's Minister of Economic Development Desmond Hoyte has said that large deposits of (?casing) bauxite in Brazil should not provide his country with a marketing problem. The minister gave the assurance last night in a wideranging addr s to Guyanese nationals in London. Brazil has recently discovered large quantities of bauxite in its northern region and bauxite is one of Guyana's main foreign exchange earners. However, Mr Hoyte said he felt most of Brazil's new reserves would be absorbed by that country as it has never been a large importer of Guyana's bauxite.

Turning to the continent, Mr Hoyte noted that the ruling People's National Congress would continue on a socialist path. According to the economic development minister, the party would not return the country to the old order when a few privileged persons and families dominated the lives of the rest of the people of the country.

HAVANA REPORTS MASS RALLY IN SOLIDARITY WITH GRENADA

FL142017 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1904 GMT 14 Nov 79 FL

[Text] The increased U.S. military presence in the Caribbean region is an attempt to intimidate the peoples of the region so that they do not follow the historic path of Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada. This was stated by Ralph Ramkarran, a leader of the Guyanese People's Progressive Party, during a mass rally held in solidarity with the Grenadian revolution and to condemn the attempts at destabilization in the Caribbean region. The Guyanese leader called for the dismantling of the recently installed military base [as heard] in Key West, Florida, which he called a threat to peace not only for Cuba and the Caribbean region but for the world. Ramkarran expressed his solidarity with the Grenadian Government of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and stated that the recent counterrevolutionary plot against that nation certainly had the direct or indirect support of the United States.

Ralph Ramkarran, a leader of the Guyanese People's Progressive Party, called on the peoples of the Caribbean region to unite in defense of the Grenadian revolution against U.S. imperialism and called for the approval of a resolution on this matter. The proposal was unanimously approved by the public attending the rally in solidarity with the Grenadian people. They also condemned the U.S. action and the local Grenadian reactionary forces' attempts at creating another crisis in the Caribbean region. Ramkarran recalled the numerous destabilizing maneuvers against Grenada and stated that Washington has undertaken this policy against that Caribbean island because the people refuse to accept the dictates of the United States. The Guyanese leader also demanded the immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from the Guantanamo Naval Base in Cuba, and he pointed out the role played in the Caribbean region by the transnationals and other financial agencies.